MARVEL LEGACY

OUT OF TIME

699

CAPTAIN AMERICA®

MARK WAID
CHRIS SAMNEE
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SAMNEE '17
MW

THE INCREDIBLE HULK VS. THE THING

IN A BATTLE FOR THE FUTURE!*

*WELL, NOT REALLY. I MEAN, THEY'RE IN IT, BUT...

"ALL WE REALLY HAVE TO DO IS GET PAST *SECURITY.*

"THE CITIZENS *THEMSELVES* ARE NO *THREAT.*

"FROM WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME, *KING BABBINGTON* AND THE PEOPLE OF *'AMERICA'*-- IT KILLS ME THAT THEY CO-OPTED THE NAME--

"--THE PEOPLE OF *'AMERICA'* ARE SO OVER-THE-TOP *ELITE,* IT WORKS TO OUR *ADVANTAGE.* WE HAVE THE *UPPER HAND.*

AMERICA. 2025.

"I'VE SEEN THEIR LIKE TIME AND AGAIN. POMPOUS WINDBAGS WHO HAVE NO REGARD FOR OTHERS. WHO SPIT ON THOSE IN NEED WHILE *THEY* COAST ON *WEALTH* AND *PRIVILEGE.*

BWONG

"I DOUBT ANY OF THEM WOULD KNOW WHICH END OF A GUN TO *HOLD.*

"SO DETHRONING THEIR *KING* IS MOSTLY A MATTER OF BREAKING THROUGH THEIR *PERIMETER DEFENSE--*

"--THEN LETTING *OUR* PEOPLE *IN.*

SHWANG

"FROM ALL YOU'VE *TOLD* ME--

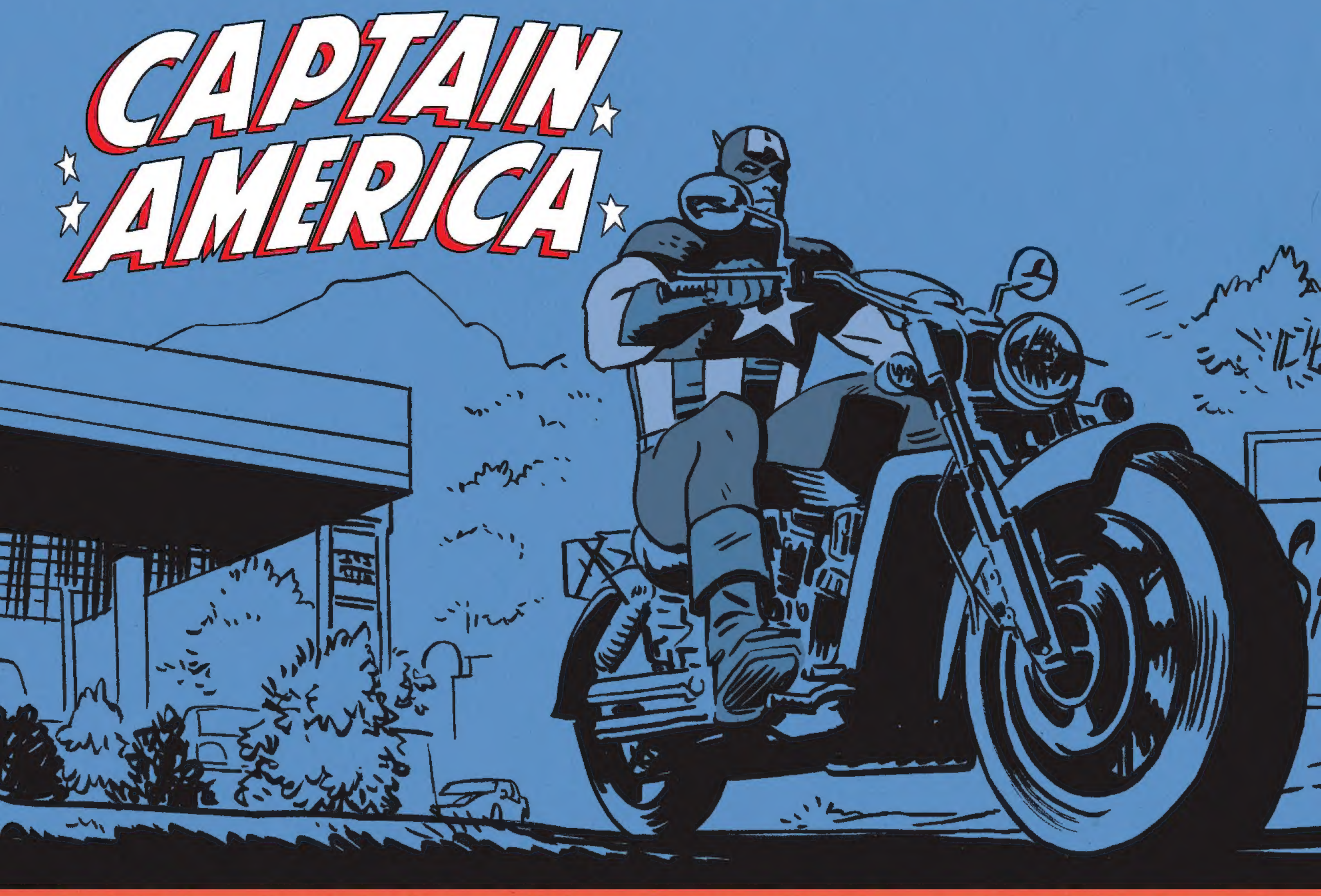
CLUNK

"--I CAN'T SEE THE CHALLENGE."

HULK?

RRAAGGGGH!

1940! As the world teetered on the brink of global war, frail Steve Rogers entered a secret laboratory and was transformed into the American Super-Soldier! For five thrilling years, he fought the Axis powers--until a freak stroke of fate threw him into suspended animation. When he awoke, he was a man decades out of his time! Since that fateful day, Steve Rogers has sought his destiny in this brave new world!



Captain America defeated a villainous group called Rampart in Nebraska, and in retaliation, they captured Steve and put him on ice--literally! Now Captain America is, once again, a man out of time in the not-so-distant future of 2025, where Rampart was able to stage a nuclear disaster and use the ensuing panic to usurp America's government. Rampart's King Babbington rules what's left of the USA with an iron fist--but Captain America and his small band of rebels are ready to bring his tyranny to an end!

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SMASH!

HULK, WHAT ARE *YOU* DOI--

SMASH!

HULK! *BANNER!* IT'S *ME!* WE'RE *FRIENDS!* CALM DOWN!

NO?

WELL, THEN--

--WE'LL DO THIS THE *HARD* WAY.

LIANG! ARM ME!

?

THE *EXPLOSIVES!*

PASS ME THE EXPLOSIVES!

GKKK--!

0:01

FA-WHOOM

BRUCE! MY GOD, MAN--WHY ARE YOU HERE? HOW ARE YOU HERE?

...KING...KING BABBINGTON...

...HE BRAINWASHED THE HULK FOR SO...

...SO LONG...AFTER THE ATOMIC WAR...

THEY TOLD ME THE AVENGERS, THE X-MEN, THE SECRET WARRIORS...NO ONE SURVIVED.

TWO OF US DID. THE ONLY ONES TOUGH ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND THE BLAST RADIATION.

HULK AND--

BLAM BLAM

BLAM BLAM

COMMANDOS! HOLD THE LINE! PROTECT BANNER!

LIANG AND I ARE GOING IN!

YOUR TASK WAS SIMPLE AND DIRECT!

thup

FIND STEVE ROGERS. USE ALL RAPIDTROOPS AND DRONES AT OUR DISPOSAL.

BRING HIM TO ME.

THAT WAS THIRTEEN DAYS AGO.

MY KING, ROGERS-- ROGERS IS DOING THE JOB HIMSELF! A LAMB TO THE SLAUGHTER!

NO. A LION.

THE WAR GAVE US PURPOSE FOR OUR NATION. IT GAVE ME THE HULK. IT GAVE ME THE POWER OF THE MIND. TWO OF THOSE HAVE ALREADY FAILED US.

THE SUBJECTS ROGERS LEADS ARE LAZY, WORTHLESS INFERIORS WHO REFUSE TO RESPECT THE SACRED RIGHTS OF CITIZENS OF MERIT.

MEN OF QUALITY ARE ENTITLED TO REIGN! WE WILL NOT BE OVERTHROWN BY JEALOUS, SUBHUMAN REFUSE! THEY MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE WHAT IS OURS!

I AM PREPARED TO PROTECT MYSELF! GUARDS! READY ARMS AND MOVE OUT!

IT'S OBVIOUS TO ANY MILITARY TACTICIAN WHERE ROGERS IS HEADED FIRST!

"DO NOT ALLOW HIM TO ACCESS THE GENERATOR!"

WHAT AM I LOOKING AT?

I SAW MACHINERY LIKE THIS BACK IN 1943 EUROPE. NOT NEARLY AS LARGE OR COMPLEX, BUT I RECOGNIZE A POWER PLANT WHEN I SEE IT.

AND WITHOUT POWER, THE CASTLE FALLS INTO CHAOS.

I BEGRUDGINGLY ADMIT THAT YOU'VE TAUGHT US A LOT ABOUT STRATEGY THESE LAST TWO WEEKS, BOMB POP.

I KNOW YOU WISH YOU WERE BACK HOME.

"HOME" IS WHEREVER MY COUNTRY NEEDS ME, LIANG.

BUT YES, I DO.

STILL, I'VE MADE THIS SORT OF LEAP ACROSS TIME BEFORE. AND LIKE THE LAST ONE...

...I NEED TO MAKE MY PEACE WITH THE FACT THAT IT'S PROBABLY A ONE-WAY TRIP.

THIS ENTIRE APPARATUS BAFFLES ME. IT'S NOT SOLAR- OR WIND-POWERED. NO SMELL OF FOSSIL FUEL. WHAT'S THE SOURCE OF ITS--

BEN?

MY AUNT PETUNIA...!

IT CAN'T BE--YA DISAPPEARED *YEARS* AGO--

CAP? IS THAT REALLY *YOU?*

"HULK AND *THE THING.*"

IT'S ME, OLD FRIEND. BEN, WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU *DOING?* YOU'RE NOT ON *THEIR* SIDE, ARE YOU?

WHOSE SIDE? CAP, THERE'S MILLIONS O' PEOPLE *DEPENDIN'* ON ME! THIS CONTRAPTION'S ALL THAT KEEPS THE *SHELTERS* RUNNIN'--THE *OXYGEN* PUMPIN'!

I BEEN DOWN HERE SINCE AN HOUR AFTER TH' *WAR!* IT'S WHERE THE GOVERNMENT SAID I WUZ *NEEDED!*

Y'SAW FOR YERSELF, DIDN'TCHA? RIGHT OVER OUR HEADS--A NUCLEAR **WASTELAND!** RADIATION FORCIN' EVERYBODY **UNDERGROUND!** I'M THEIR ONLY **LIFELINE!**

BEN...IS THAT WHAT THEY **TOLD** YOU?

MY GOD, BEN. **NO. NO.** YOU'RE POWERING A **CASTLE OF EVIL!** AMERICA'S BEEN TAKEN OVER BY A GROUP CALLED **RAMPART!**

THEY PUT ME IN **SUSPENDED ANIMATION.** THEY TOOK ME OUT OF **PLAY** BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE I COULD HAVE **STOPPED** ALL THIS!

THEY **LIED** TO YOU, BEN. I'M **SORRY,** BUT--

--ALL THESE YEARS, YOU'VE ONLY BEEN HELPING **THEM.**

THEY **USED** ME!

THEY PUT ME IN **HELL** AN' THEY **USED** ME!

JOHNNY... FRANKLIN...**VAL**... THEY WUZ **MURDERED!**

LET ME **UP** THERE! I'LL MAKE 'EM **PAY!**

BEN!

BEN, I KNOW YOU WANT *REVENGE!* GOD KNOWS YOU'RE *ENTITLED!* THIS MAN AND HIS ORGANIZATION ARE *MASS MURDERERS* WHO *STOLE AMERICA!*

BUT IF YOU REALLY WANT TO TOPPLE KING BABBINGTON'S *REGIME* AND RESTORE OUR *COUNTRY...*

...OUR *REAL* STRENGTH--OUR *GREATEST* STRENGTH--IS IN *NUMBERS.*

I HAVE FORCES RALLIED JUST *OUTSIDE* THIS AREA. I NEED YOU AT THE *PERIMETER WALL.*

FOOM FOOM

AWRIGHT. BUT THEN I GOT SOMETHIN' *ELSE* I GOTTA DO.

I BROUGHT IN SOME BUSTED-UP *STUFF* FROM OL' BIG-BRAIN *REED'S* LAB. MEBBE--

BANG BANG BANG

SPANG

SPANG

BEN, WE'VE GOT THIS! GO! GO!

LOOKS LIKE RAMPART'S PULLING OUT ***ALL THE STOPS.*** YOU KNOW WHAT THAT ***MEANS?***

THAT WE'RE GETTING ***CLOSE?***

YOU'RE A ***VERY*** QUICK STUDY.

THOOM

THOOM

THOOM

THOOM

THOOM

IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!

CHOOM

BOOM

LIANG!

PRAM!!

HOW BAD?

ONLY ENOUGH TO SLOW ME DOWN, BOMB POP.

SOLDIER ON.

FOR COUNTRY!

FOR FREEDOM!

THOOM!

YOU.

GIVE ME MY COUNTRY BACK.

I'LL MAKE THE DEMANDS, THANK YOU.

NNGH!

I HAD THE HULK UNDER MY CONTROL, ROGERS. THE HULK.

YOU'RE ONLY HUMAN.

I DIDN'T KEEP YOU ON ICE JUST TO SEND A MESSAGE.

I TOOK YOU OUT OF THE AMERICAN EQUATION BECAUSE YOU DISGUST ME.

YOU AND THE "POOR, DOWNTRODDEN" ANIMALS YOU SO POINTLESSLY SHEPHERD.

NOT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL! THE LESSER ONES WILL FOREVER WALLOW IN FAILURE AND POVERTY! HOW DO THEY CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY?

THEY DON'T. THEY ARE BENEATH CONTEMPT. THEY WEAKEN THIS NATION. THEY HURT US ALL.

YOU WORK FOR ME NOW. NO ANTIQUATED SENSE OF PATRIOTISM CAN DEFEND YOU.

I AM YOUR PROTECTION NOW.

YOU'VE NO NEED FOR THAT SHIELD.

SURRENDER IT.

SPANG!

YOU GOT THE *HULK* BECAUSE HE'S DRIVEN ONLY BY *POWER* AND *RAGE.*

I FIGHT FOR *FREEDOM* AND *HOPE.*

THOSE ARE THE FIRES THAT BURN *FOREVER.*

HOWLERS, STAND DOWN.

BANNER? WHERE'S TH' *GREEN* GUY?

BABBINGTON BURNED HIM TOO HOT FOR TOO LONG. HE'S *GONE.*

BOMB POP! YOU DID IT!

YOU *REALLY*-- I MEAN--

--HOW CAN WE EVER *THANK* YOU?

STOP CALLING ME "BOMB POP."

NOW WHAT?

NOW WE DO WHAT WE *ALWAYS* DO.

WE KEEP *FIGHTING.*

DEPOSING A *KING* IS ONLY THE *START* OF RESTORING A DEMOCRACY. POLITICS ABHORS A VACUUM.

WITHOUT *VIGILANCE*, SOMEONE--SOMETHING--EQUALLY *DESTRUCTIVE* WILL TAKE BABBINGTON'S *PLACE.*

WATCH. I GUARANTEE YOU THAT BY TOMORROW, FOREIGN POWERS WILL BE *RACING* TO FILL THAT VOID.

I TOOK AN OATH TO DEFEND MY COUNTRY NO MATTER THE PERSONAL COST. I *WILL PROTECT* YOU WHILE YOU REBUILD THE *REPUBLIC*, AND TO DO THAT--

--YOU NEED A *LEADER.*

YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

THE LEADER WE NEED IS YOU, CAP.

CAP CAP CAP CAP

TO BE CONCLUDED!

CAP'S CORNER

WHAT DOES CAPTAIN AMERICA MEAN TO YOU?

When I was a kid, I read a crossover called **MAXIMUM CARNAGE**. I lived a pretty sheltered life, so to me, this was a pretty dark story. And I remember at the end of one of the issues, Spidey had been knocked around pretty hard. He was lying there and then there was a full page showing Cap standing there offering his hand. "Looks like you could use some help, son."

That single page will forever be burned into my memory. Just seeing him there filled me with such hope. I copied that image and kept it in my locker. If I ever felt depressed or alone I could look to Cap and be inspired.

Thank you, Marvel,
Andy Gengler

To Mark, Chris and Matthew,

Thank you for the wonderful issue of perhaps one of my favorite characters of all time. I especially wanted to thank you for sharing your own special stories telling everyone of your personal relationship with Cap. I saw many similarities between your stories and mine, and when I saw the invite to correspond, well, I couldn't resist.

I too have been reading comics for most of my life and drew on a lot of the same inspirations mentioned in your article. I found Cap to be a character that I identified with very early on. I am a former Marine and now I work as a paramedic in Central California. My parents, much like Cap, taught me at a very young age that a life spent in the service of others is not only a responsibility we all share to some degree, but also...a pretty damn good life--one to be proud of.

When we see the ugliness in the world around us, it's refreshing to find stories that reflect the goodness, the valor and the integrity that is still out there. So I thank you for this particular issue, and I for one will be standing ready to see what you have in store for us.

Mel Perez

What does Captain America mean to me?

To answer this question, I first need to let you know that Captain America was my dad's favorite super hero. He adored him and I think he was his idol. My dad passed away around the same time that Captain America was killed in the comic books, and because of this, Cap took on an even more significant role in my life. Cap came to epitomize the lessons my dad taught me about being a good citizen. By sharing Captain America with me, the hero in red, white and blue--in a way--became my Dad's legacy. Every time I read an issue of CAP, it feels like my dad is reading it with me, keeping on teaching me the same lessons. Captain America is a hero who is as important now as he has ever been.

Jake Botterell

NEXT:
CAPTAIN AMERICA #700

STEVE ROGERS, KING OF AMERICA?!

What does Cap mean to you? Send us emails at **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM** and mark them "**Okay to Print,**" or tweet us using the hashtags **#CapLegacy** and **#OKtoprint** for a chance to see your marvelous missives in future issues!

ZONE